

Peculiar Pattern O74

Harry Rickard (#1802)



The illustrated pattern has been in the *Perfins Club United States* catalog since it was first published. It has always seemed like a peculiar design to me. Notice that the top of the letter "T" is somewhat curved. In addition, the letter "O" is not quite right in that it is partially open at the top. Most letter "O" dies have holes at the same level on each side.

Perhaps in haste an inexperienced employee did not use a punch to set the drill position and the bit wandered off before taking a bite. The pattern was used by the Oliver Typewriter Company of Chicago, IL.

Many early collectors destroyed perfins because they felt that there was something wrong with anyone "defacing" the stamps that they were collecting. In addition, if a pattern had limited local usage, the probability of a large number of copies remaining in circulation after all these years is very low.

Early Collectors

Harry Rickard (#1802)

I am sometimes amazed at the information in some of the early editions of *The Perfins Bulletin*. For example, I recently came across the following article in the October 1973 edition.

Perforator Coils

Walter Bose also lists several patterns said to be limited to coil stamps only, implying that some machines were especially suited for handling stamps of this kind.

In the United States, we have only a few patterns that regularly turn up on coils. One well known type, used almost exclusively on coils, is the City of Chicago's "I WILL" pattern. But it is quite awkward to put coils through the usual types of perforating machines, and I have never heard of a machine designed specifically for coil stamps.

Many of our members include coil patterns in